



State of Arizona
Department of Education

Tom Horne
Superintendent of
Public Instruction

TO: TALK w/ADE Members
FROM: Jeannette Zemeida
Arizona Department of Education
Exceptional Student Services
DATE: May 7, 2003
SUBJECT: Minutes from Meeting on April 21, 2003

TALK w/ADE MEETING MINUTES

❖ Welcome/Attendance

- Lynn Busenbark, Arizona Department of Education/Exceptional Student Services (ADE/ESS) Steve Mishlove--ADE/ESS; Jeannette Zemeida--ADE/ESS; Susan Benjamin, Paradise Valley Unified School District; Laura Bistrow, Paradise Valley Unified School District; Gail Bornfield, Amphitheater Unified School District; Diane Bruening, Chandler Unified School District; Karen Davis, PPEP TEC Charter High School (by phone), Pamela Loper, Pendergast Elem. School District

❖ ADE Update

- Continuous Improvement Monitoring Process (CIMP)
 - The Office of Special Education Programs (OSEP) has gone to a 3-part monitoring system
 - Part 1 -- a look across the nation at each state's data collection/information gathering system [moving to a data-based decision making model]
 - Part 2 [started about 5 years ago] -- the state looks at its data within the state, uses focus groups, interviews, etc.
 - Part 3 -- focused monitoring -- those states that are at the bottom in a few categories will be selected for intensive monitoring by OSEP
 - Part B in Arizona falls in the 2nd category; however, Part C falls within the 3rd part
 - Lynn Busenbark shared information regarding the high school AIMS test scores from 1999-2001 [information that is being looked at for the CIMP]
 - Lynn shared information from other documents that will be looked at for the CIMP
 - There are seven areas under the CIMP to monitor. The Special Education Advisory Panel is being used as the steering committee for the monitoring process. They decided to start with General Supervision.
- Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE) -- FAPE by 3 Requirement
 - Lynn went over statistics of numbers of children that were in the AzEIP program that remained in the AzEIP program past their 3rd birthday
 - How much past their 3rd is unknown -- possible reasons were discussed

- ADE/ESS working on survey for parents to gather information regarding this issue
- A memo was sent to the special education directors in elementary and unified districts regarding FAPE by 3; Lynn suggested that everyone dig out the memo and read for clarification of FAPE issues
 - Lynn asked group to e-mail Jeannette Zemeida if they could not find the memo
- Essential Facilitation for the IEP Meeting Process
 - Training set for May 14-16, 2003; 8:30 am – 4:00 pm each day
Holiday Inn Hotel Suites
1600 S. Country Club Drive
Mesa, AZ
480-964-7000
 - Travel/per diem can be reimbursed by State
 - In future, money from a capacity building grant could be used to fund this training
- Medicaid
 - Subgroup from the technical advisory group of the MIPS program has been looking at additional services that the group wants included in the MIPS agreement with AHCCCS
 - Focus is on targeted case management, durable medical equipment/assistive technology, and services for the hearing and visually impaired
 - Steve met with AHCCCS (Debbie Wells) in early April to share ideas
 - Meetings will be held on a monthly basis
 - Descriptors are near finalization; a decision should be made within three months
- 6-B Funding
 - Allocations will go out by mid-May
 - \$132 million total state grant for year; \$20 million more than last year
 - Eligibility documentation to secure grant was submitted in April
- Special Education Rules
 - Public meeting scheduled in May
 - Due process rule changes reconsidered by Superintendent Horne and will move forward
- Due Process Hearing Officer Training
 - August 6-7, 2003
- Education Interpreter Rule
 - Rule being drafted regarding hiring guidelines
 - Christy Farley, Executive Director of the State Board, will send it out to districts for feedback when completed
- Special Education Cost Study
 - Problems with SAIS system are causing delays in completing the study
 - May not be able to finalize Special Ed Child Count until the end of May
 - The CPA firm, Heinfeld and Meach, needs final counts to be able to conduct the cost study
 - State budget may cause legislature to eliminate funding for cost study
- Meeting with SAIS
 - Steve would like to set up meeting to go over the Special Education rules that have been established
 - Pam Loper and Diane Bruening volunteered to attend meeting
- Meeting between ASU and ADE regarding Teacher Preparation: A Preservice Programming for Future Teachers
 - Meeting centered around admissions and retention; coursework for preservice teachers
 - Diane Bruening and Gail Bornfield attended as stakeholders and representatives of Talk w/ADE

❖ Open Discussion

- SPEDWEB (formerly known as I-SPED)
 - Private vendors challenging ADE/ESS grants to districts for SPEDWEB

- Joe Zello explained issues regarding challenges from 3 separate vendors; Lynn Busenbark outlined possible legal issues
- Rigid parameters would need to be set for consideration
- SPEDWEB is still available for districts; however Mesa Public Schools is informing potential customers of challenge to grants
- No Child Left Behind
 - Reauthorization proposals regarding testing discussed
 - Will funding be available for teacher testing for current employees? Yes, there is money for this under 6B.
- Transition to Postsecondary Education
 - Colleges requiring districts to submit updated IQ tests to students
- Speech for Preschoolers
 - Funding versus time
 - Suggestion to include as related service in order to ease burden on speech therapists
 - Environment and time allotted per child discussed

❖ **Next Meeting**

- The next meeting will be held May 12, 2003, Paradise Valley Unified School District, IMC Building, Ivory Room, 15002 N. 32nd St., Phoenix, 9 am –12 noon.